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<center>**Remarks**</center>

In the present response, four claims (1, 3, 6, and 22) are amended; one claim (36) is canceled; and one claim (37) is newly added. Claim 1-35 and 37 are presented for examination. Applicants believe that no new matter is entered.

I. Claim Rejections: 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-8, 12-15, 20-26, 30-31, and 35-36 are rejected under 35 USC § 103 as being unpatentable over USPN 6,085,030 (Whitehead) in view of USPN 6,044,379 (Callsen). Applicants respectfully traverse.

To establish a prima facie case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art cited must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. *See* M.P.E.P. § 2143. Applicants assert that the rejection does not satisfy these criteria.

Claim 1

Whitehead in view of Callsen does not teach or suggest all the elements of the independent claims. For example, claim 1 recites:

> a binding-type indicator that instructs the resource mediator
> whether to use a tight binding to resolve the local name if a
> resource descriptor corresponds to one of the available resources or
> to use the flexible binding if the one of the available resources is
> not available on resolving the local name.

These recitations are not taught or suggested in Whitehead and Callsen. First, the Office Action even admits that "Whitehead does not explicitly teach a binding type indicator" (OA of 12/30/05 at p. 3). Applicants agree with this admission. The Office

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Action, however, cites Callsen at column 11, lines 22-38 to cure this deficiency. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Callsen teaches that a server calls a "dobind" method or naming context implementation during a bind operation (9: 35-39). The implementation is called with an argument that includes a binding type (9: 40-45). In column 11, Callsen explicitly discusses this binding type. Specifically, when the binding type is an object, then a rebind operation is called, and the process of performing a bind operation is completed (11: 30-38). Notice, though, that Callsen does not teach or suggest the recitations of claim 1. Specifically in claim 1, the binding-type indicator instructs the resource mediator whether to use a tight binding to resolve the local name if a resource descriptor corresponds to one of the available resources or to use the flexible binding if the one of the available resources is not available on resolving the local name. In other words, the binding-type indicator instructs the resource mediator whether to use (1) a tight binding or (2) a flexible binding. The resource mediator uses the tight binding if the resource descriptor corresponds to an available resource. Otherwise, when the tight binding available resource is not available, the resource mediator uses the flexible binding. The flexible binding binds the local name to a description of the desired resources.

Callsen does not teach or suggest that its binding type provides instructions on when to use a tight binding or a flexible binding, as recited in claim 1. Instead, Callsen simply states that when the binding type is designated as an object, then a rebind operation is called. The instructions in claim 1, however, are much more explicit.

For at least these reasons, claim 1 and all its dependent claims are allowable over Whitehead and Callsen.

Claim 3

Claim 3 recites numerous recitations that are not taught or suggested in Whitehead in view of Callsen. For example, claim 3 recites "wherein the flexible binding includes a binding-type indicator that informs the resource mediator of whether to use references to a resource descriptor or the description of the desired resource when resolving the local name." As noted above in connection with claim 1, Whitehead and Callsen do not teach or suggest these recitations.

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For at least these reasons, claim 3 and all its dependent claims are allowable over Whitehead and Callsen.

As another example, claim 3 recites a resource mediator that identifies a resource handler task for handling the message by resolving the local name "using an arbitration policy to select one of the available resources when **plural different available resources match the description of the desired resource**" (emphasis added). Nowhere does Whitehead or Callsen teach or suggest such an arbitration policy.

The Office Action cites Whitehead at column 5, lines 15-35 for using an arbitration policy. Portions of this section of Whitehead are reproduced below for convenience:

> If the description is found, the request is routed by the CMS to the offer repository where references to specific instances of that component type are registered. Here the registered component instances are examined to determine whether they match the requested component properties. If the instances match, the component reference is passed by the CMS to the requesting component consumer (Whitehead at 5: 19-26).

Thus, this section of Whitehead teaches that registered components in a look-up table are compared with a requested component. If the requested component matches with a registered component, then the component reference is passed by the CMS. Whitehead, however, never discusses or suggests **what happens when plural different registered components match a requested component.** In other words, Whitehead does not teach or suggest an arbitration policy that can resolve a situation wherein multiple different registered components in the look-up table all match the requested component.

For at least these reasons, claim 3 and all its dependent claims are allowable over Whitehead and Callsen.

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Claim 6

Claim 6 recites numerous limitations that are not taught or suggested in Whitehead in view of Callsen. For example, claim 6 recites "a binding-type indicator that causes the resource mediator to use a tight binding to resolve the local name if any references to a resource descriptor correspond to one of available resources and to use the flexible binding otherwise such that the flexible binding is based on the description of the desired resource." As noted above in connection with claim 1, Whitehead and Callsen do not teach or suggest these recitations.

For at least these reasons, claim 6 and all its dependent claims are allowable over Whitehead and Callsen.

As another example, claim 6 recites "wherein an arbitration policy is used to select a resource **if plural different available resources are available as matching the description of the desired resource**" (emphasis added). As noted above in connection with claim 3, Whitehead and Callsen do not teach or suggest these recitations.

For at least these reasons, claim 6 and its dependents are allowable over Whitehead and Callsen.

Claim 22

Claim 22 recites numerous limitations that are not taught or suggested in Whitehead. For example, claim 22 recites "using a binding-type indicator to specify one of flexible binding or tight binding." As noted above in connection with claim 1, Whitehead and Callsen do not teach or suggest this limitation.

For at least these reasons, claim 22 and its dependents are allowable over Whitehead and Callsen.

As another example, claim 22 recites "using an arbitration policy to select a resource **if more than one resource matches the description of the desired resource**" (emphasis added). As noted above in connection with claim 3, Whitehead and Callsen do not teach or suggest these recitations.

For at least these reasons, claim 22 and its dependents are allowable over Whitehead and Callsen.

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II. Claim Rejections: 35 USC § 103

Claims 9 and 27 are rejected under 35 USC § 103 as being unpatentable over Whitehead in view of Callsen and USPN 5,790,853 (Nomura). Applicants respectfully traverse.

To establish a prima facie case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art cited must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. *See* M.P.E.P. § 2143. Applicants assert that the rejection does not satisfy these criteria.

As noted in connection with claims 1 and 22, Whitehead and Callsen do not teach or suggest all of the claimed elements in claims 1 and 22. Nomura fails to cure the deficiencies of Whitehead and Callsen. Thus, for at least the reasons given in connection with claims 1 and 22, respective dependent claims 9 and 27 are allowable over Whitehead in view of Callsen and Nomura.

III. Claim Rejections: 35 USC § 103

Claims 10-11, 16-19, 28-29, and 32-34 are rejected under 35 USC § 103 as being unpatentable over Whitehead in view of Callsen and USPN 5,632,600 (Ji). Applicants respectfully traverse.

To establish a prima facie case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art cited must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. *See* M.P.E.P. § 2143. Applicants assert that the rejection does not satisfy these criteria.

As noted in connection with claims 1 and 22, Whitehead and Callsen do not teach or suggest all of the claimed elements in claims 1 and 22. Ji fails to cure the deficiencies of Whitehead and Callsen. Thus, for at least the reasons given in connection with claims

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1 and 22, respective dependent claims 10-11, 16-19, 28-29, and 32-34 are allowable over
Whitehead in view of Callsen and Ji.

IV. New Claim

Applicants add new claim 37 and respectfully argue that the art of record does not
teach or suggest a binding-type indicator that includes an indication to remove tight
bindings that are not currently available when resolving the local name.

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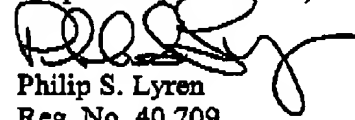
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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicants believe all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to Philip S. Lyren at Telephone number 832-236-5529. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, is being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office facsimile number 571-273-8300 on this 30th day of March, 2006.

By _Carrie McKerley_

Name: Carrie McKerley

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